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Dear Commissioners;
FCC MAIL ROOM

Comments To Support RM-9242 LPFM RADIO

Now let's see if we can convince the government to let us have what is rightfully ours (the PEOPLES) and give us back our airwaves! Common sense and logic do NOT apply to lawmakers. Whatever WE want, has to make them a lot of money or they won't do anything for us. Since pirate radio is non-profit, don't expect them to serve our needs over the NAB's interests.

Micropower broadcasting is helping to restore grassroots democracy, bringing back the concept of open and free civic discourse among all citizens. Further, it is a direct challenge to a broadcast system based entirely on wealth. As opposed to the hundreds of thousand dollars required under the current FCC structure to even think about starting an FM broadcast station, a micropower FM broadcast station can be put on the air for a cost ranging from \$1000-\$2000. An affordable amount for any community desiring to have a voice.

The NAB may well be the most powerful lobby in the US. The US Congress dares not cross them. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which is supposed to regulate the equitable use of the public airwaves, serves as their police force. In 1996, Congress passed the Telecommunications Act which legalized the theft of the public airwaves by the NAB. The Act lifted restrictions which severely limited the number of radio and television stations any one entity could own. The FCC, whose officials often get lucrative employment in the industry

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upon leaving government service, was told by the NAB that if it op
posed
the 1996 legislation, the NAB would see to it that the FCC would b
e
disbanded. Campaign finance reform provisions which would have
mandated free airtime for political candidates, and thus benefitte
d
candidates not backed by big money, were also squashed by pressure
from
the N.A.B.

With good oversight, the low power statio
ns
pose no risk of violating the current FCC decency guidelines. Low
power stations would give more listening options.

. Fees and licensing procedures should be minimiz
ed
and streamlined so average individuals, schools, churches, and
community organizations can have access to the public airwaves

the establishment of a low power radio service would serve the pu
blic
interest in a number of ways. First, a low power radio broadcastin
g
service would serve as a vehicle by which a variety of programming
choices could be offered to small communities or niche segments of
communities in urban areas. Second, such a service could serve as
a
vehicle for
entrepreneurs to develop new types of programming or uses designed
to
enhance the
broadcasting service. Third, the establishment of a low power radi
o
broadcasting service would help to alleviate barriers to entry wit
hin
the broadcast industry.

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